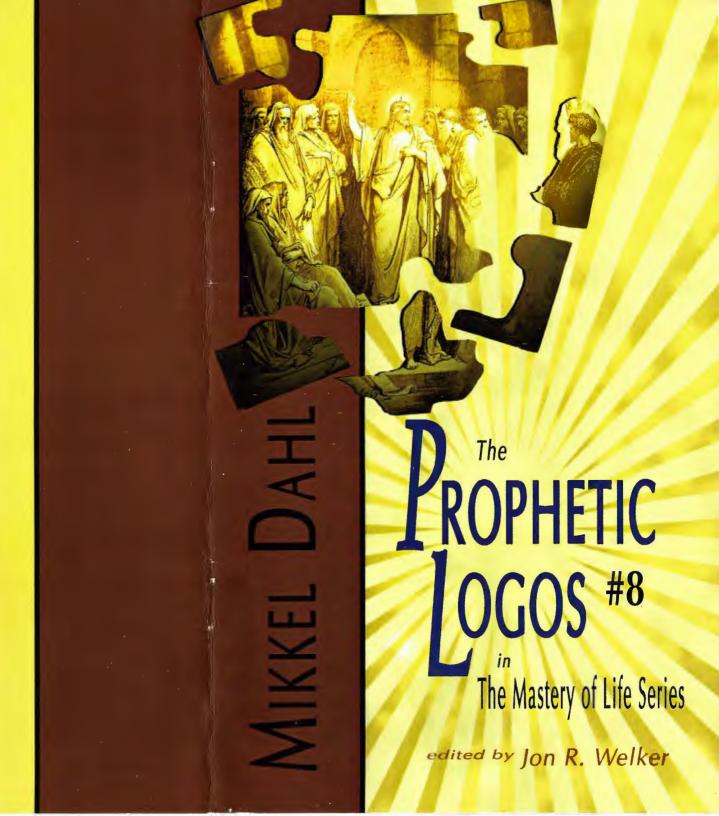
Are we supposed to "just believe" that the Bible is God's inspired Word? Wouldn't God validate it somehow, IF that Word really shows the only way to Himself and back Home? "The testimony of Jesus (that He was Who He claimed to be) is the spirit of prophecy!" says the Scripture (Revelation 19:10). Have you heard that testimony and marveled over those prophecies? You can. Now.





THE PROPHETIC LOGOS

in

The Mastery of Life Series

LESSON #8

BY MIKKEL DAHL EDITED BY JON R. WELKER

Shepherdsfield Publishers

Third Edition copyright © 2007

published by

SHEPHERDSFIELD PUBLISHERS 777 Shepherdsfield Road Fulton, Missouri 65251 (573) 642-1439

www.shepherdsfield.org

THE PROPHETIC LOGOS

LESSON 8

** "...but my heart standeth in awe of Thy Word.
** I rejoice at Thy Word, as one that findeth great
** spoil."

Psalm 119:161-162

DISCIPLESHIP

Never, NEVER let us forget that the Word of God MUST YIELD TREASURES OUT OF THIS WORLD! Yet THAT in itself is not of the greatest vital importance. For, having seen the unassailable PROOF THAT what we have before us is the LIVING WORD from the Throne of Glory,

*** WHAT ARE WE DOING THEREWITH? ***

Are we seeking entertainment? Are we curiosity seekers? Are we waiting and searching for some "bang" out of the prophecies revealed? Or are we hoping that something will "turn up" which will VINDICATE some special "cult," or phase of our individual belief?

WITH KNOWLEDGE COMES RESPONSIBILITY!!!

Neither let THAT ever be forgotten! For, to the extent that you allow that to be forgotten, to that extent do you stand in danger of coming to grief!

When God has planned and wrought; when He has endured and suffered for your sake and for mine, even as a lov-

ing, self-sacrificing Father, and has left us the INdisputable INSIGNIA OF AUTHORITY, then

** HE EXPECTS US TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT! **

Or do you suppose that a LOVING FATHER shall forever dote on an indolent, selfish son? Hardly! Therefore must we now commence to view His TEACHINGS, and TAKE THEM TO HEART.... For, unless we do (that), what shall His Word profit us? Thus it behooves us to consider with AUGUST SOBRIETY the TEACHINGS given us by God Almighty, that we may become truly INSTRUCTED, and, being properly INSTRUCTED, to *then APPLY THE KNOWLEDGE!*

Wherefore it is high time that we commence to consider that which engenders DISCIPLESHIP, for, THAT was the FINAL instruction of our Lord to His close followers: that they were to cover the earth and "DISCIPLE the nations!" (That is, to LAY BARE to them the revealed Word of God that they [the nations] might thereby be DISCIPLINED!)

- *** "IF any man come to Me and hate not his father *** and mother, and wife and children and brethren *** and sisters, yea, and his own life also, HE CAN-*** NOT BE MY DISCIPLE!
- *** Or what King going to make war against another
- *** King, sitteth not down first, and consulteth
- *** whether he be able with ten thousand to meet him
- *** that cometh against him with twenty thousand?
- *** Or else, while the other is yet a great way off, he
- *** sendeth an ambassage and desireth conditions of
- *** PEACE. So likewise, whosoever he be of you that
- *** FORSAKETH NOT ALL THAT HE HATH, he
- *** cannot be My disciple!"

Luke 14:26,31-33

The above – as a portion of the Lord's discourse with the multitude following Him – as to the cost of discipleship, lends

itself ideally to sermon-making. Though the learned have spoken with eloquence, yet the hour is at hand that jewels NEW (*Matt. 13:52*) and rare be brought to light, that added glory may redound unto the Word of God....

Already it has been said in these Lessons – and it bears repeating – that the Lord Jesus Christ never spoke or performed a miracle without leaving His Divine Insignia: PROOF irrefutable that He was the Divine Logos incarnate!

And now that the hour is late, this message MUST GO OUT at an ever-increasing pace, that TRUTH TRIUMPHANT shall be shouted from the housetops....

- ** "...WHO then is that faithful and wise steward,
- ** whom his Lord shall make ruler over his house-
- ** hold, to GIVE THEM THEIR PORTION OF
- ** MEAT IN DUE SEASON? BLESSED is that ser-
- ** vant whom his Lord, when He cometh, shall find
- ** so doing."

Luke 12:42-43

- ** "Therefore, every scribe which is instructed unto
- ** the Kingdom of Heaven, is like unto a man that is
- ** an householder which bringeth forth out of his trea-
- ** sure (gems)...NEW and old."

Matthew 13:52

IF, in these writings and Lessons, treasures NEW are not brought forth in abundance from His storehouse – that eyes may stare and hearts exult – then cast these pages aside. But and IF your keenest and most profound judgment cannot escape the conclusion that these reveal a goodly portion of the TREASURES hidden down through the ages – and now brought out as the NEW (ones), then KNOW for a certainty that yours is a privilege rare: the privilege of beholding what others have not seen; the blessed privilege also of taking your place and helping in THAT STEWARDSHIP which is appor-

tioning THE MEAT DUE IN THIS SEASON.... Yours then is also a responsibility.... With great determination you may rise to meet it and thus partake of the rewards promised in *Luke 12:44*, or you may shirk that responsibility and accept your cursed portion as described in *Luke 12:46-47*.... Even in these moments, as you read, is *Luke 12:42-43* (quoted previously) being fulfilled. The weight of the hour is stupendous: angelic beings watching to see what you do with your opportunity, and recording it permanently....

The multitude trod one upon the other in the press to follow Him. ... His ministry was nearing its end. Then pausing, He turned to them to explain the cost of being His disciple. And the price consisted of LOVING HIM to the EXCLUSION of everything else; a willingness to leave family, home, and friends to DO HIS WILL: bearing one's cross to follow the Master....

Could He have made it clearer that His Kingdom was NOT an earthly kingdom and that His requirements were MORAL, and of SPIRITUAL potential, rather than the brawn and courage to brandish a sword?

He spoke to them as individuals; He spoke to them as a group representative of the nation. As His words applied to them individually, so do they hold force for us today as individuals. As required of them, so of their nation; as then, SO NOW! (The era is lengthened but NOT closed.)

As He concluded His statement about the two warring kings, He repeated the spiritual requirement: ** "He who forsakes not all that he has – cannot be My disciple!" **

This TRUTH is as great today as in the days of His flesh, yet not merely for the individual, but for the nation(s) also!

As you know, in His Plan, and its manifestation, ALL things are conformed to the basic pattern. As we begin to UNDER-

STAND this great Truth, we can look to what He has wrought – and LEARN OF THE AGES TO COME!

The people of His day LOOKED for a DELIVERER.... Such a deliverer of their NATION would – to them – be "the Messiah"! Eagerly did they yearn for that Messianic Deliverer; waiting, hoping that even He might "change His tune" to proclaim the hour in which they should overthrow their enemies. Had He made such an announcement, and showed willingness to use a portion of His POWER against their oppressors, then even the Pharisees and Sadducees who hated Him WOULD HAVE STAKED THEIR LIFE AT HIS SIDE! Truly, they wanted their Kingdom, but NOT so SPIRITUAL a King! Yet they had hoped that it was He Who should have delivered Israel (see Lk. 24:21). This HOPE had been entertained by His mother and by Zacharias, by John the Baptist and others.... Ever since the throne of David was first established, positive assurance had been received from God Almighty that the Davidic throne was to be supreme. But they - like people even in this age - place the Kingdom (the State) BEFORE the individual! But is not "a kingdom" the sum total of its aggregate individuals? Was THAT the CHARAC-TER of "the Kingdom" for which God had wrought and waited? Or where is the nation today FIT to constitute such a Kingdom?

Now they wanted to see David's throne exalted and themselves top-dog! But our Lord was a SPIRITUAL King, and His "kingdom NOT of this world" (*Jn. 18:36*).

In *Luke 14*, as already cited at the opening, He laid down the concomitants for the exaltation of the individual, or of the nation. And, since His nation did not begin to measure up to the requirements, they had to be given another course of training in SPIRITUAL VALUES.... Nineteen centuries have elapsed: *groomed* have been His people; NOW the throne (of David) shall soon be exalted!

The Davidic throne was THE throne which had been promised. The Pharisees of His day looked for the RE-establishment of THAT throne – in accordance with their understanding. But THAT understanding was in violent conflict with the precepts and concomitants of THE Kingdom!

And THAT – beloved in Christ – was precisely what our Lord spoke about when He mentioned the two kings: one with ten thousand and the other with twenty thousand! Should not the one with 10,000 – said He – first sit down to assess the situation to see if he could stand up to the one coming against him with 20,000? Manifestly, the strength of the king with 20,000 was far too great for the army of 10,000. The regal weight of David's earthly throne – said He – was NO MATCH to stand up against the massive weight of Christ the King!

Behold then the prophecy, and rejoice in the Insignia Divine! Shout! For yours is a privilege rare....

Clearly had He stated the requirements for greatness, or soul-POWER, and then He linked it with Kingship and DO-MINION. Therefore, as we raise an earthly number by 10 to bring it to its first spiritual, or *SOUL* POWER, so conversely must we REDUCE it by 10 to make a Spirit-number speak to us in material terms. Because Christ was a SPIRITUAL King, He could link no number with Himself belonging to the material plane. Wherefore, the

10,000 and 20,000 -:-10 become 1,000 and 2,000 (years).

Thus, in substance He said to them:

*** "Can you hope that your selfish and materialistic concept of *** David's earthly throne, together with such worldly power as you may be able to manipulate – BASED ON YOUR 1,000 YEARS OF HISTORIC RECORD SINCE DAVID – shall be able to stand up to and challenge the might of My

Spirit-SCEPTRE which I shall raise at the close of 2,000 years hence? Have you sat down to count the cost of rejecting Me now, as it shall bear down upon you throughout two millennia? For, even as the GLORY of My Kingdom commences to draw within sight (while a great many years distant at that time), shall not the aggregate volume of your supplication rise to Me, desiring 'terms of PEACE'?" ***

"Ye fools and SLOW of heart..." to realize the GRAN-DEUR of the Insignia of Creation's King! How long shall it be until you lend your weight to the housetop, shouting of His praise? HELP then to declare that insignia which forever stills the babble of modernists and vain philosophers, while bringing JOY unspeakable to the humble heart.

Although the writer does not accept the verdict of modern chronologers as to the precise time of David's throne, the consensus of opinion seems to place it between 1018 and 978 B.C. Thus, even considered as such, we see that the setting up of David's throne approximated 1,000 years BEFORE the "coming against him by the King with 20,000."

Here, then, is one of the clearest and most emphatic of all His veiled prophecies, that the time (or year) when the Jewish nation would behold HIS COMING, and decide to swiftly secure "terms of Peace," would be A GREAT MANY YEARS ("while the other is A GREAT WAY OFF"). But, said He, "WHILE A GREAT WAY OFF" would they behold Him, and decide to SECURE TERMS OF PEACE! TIME and DISTANCE are synonymous!

Is YOUR heart rising to meet Him? – while a great way off? Is your heart forsaking all that it has in order that you may be His disciple? Are you exulting in this glorious opportunity, or must you be "beaten with many stripes"? SHOUT, then – redeemed of Israel – for your glorious KING – riding in His Majesty – is drawing NIGH!

** HARK! 'TIS THE HOSANNA ANTHEM RISING –
** ITS VOLUME IMPINGING ON OUTER SPACE....

Momentarily let us look at the two basic numbers He used: 10 and 20, or 1 and 2.

ONE is the number of LIFE, and when raised to its first power it became the 10 of the Sinaitic Law, which was the LAW UNTO LIFE for the SOUL (for "in the Law ye think ye have eternal Life" [*Jn.* 5:39]). "10" is the number of the soul, while its ratio (10) to the next Power becomes the requirement (LAW) unto LIFE.

Thus, the 10 He used in this saying, spoke of the LIFE He had granted to His nation through the 10 of the Law. While the 20 of His Own number is 2 raised by the first Power of 10. "2" is "division with REunity as its ideal." Hence, it is division, separation, SCREENING (2), reaching into the vitals of the soul (2 in soul-placement, with the touch of His Spirit [0] in place for BODY).

** "Suppose ye that I am come to give peace on earth? I tell you, NAY; but rather DIVISION."

Luke 12:51

** "For the Word of God is quick and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit..."

Hebrews 4:12

Discomfiting as it may appear to the carnal perspective, yet it is THE WAY of His Spirit! Worded in the tactical phrase-ology of the modern war strategist, it would read:

* "DIVIDE - AND CONOUER!" *

Thus works His Spirit! First DIVIDE; division engenders pressure; pressure wears one out. When one's weakness is fully realized, then there is a reaching out for His STRENGTH

("for in weakness is My strength made perfect" [II Cor. 12:9]).... Yet to receive of His strength another law must be met: the JOYOUS ACCEPTANCE of His Will. When THAT stage has been reached, THEN has He CONQUERED! THUS has worked His Spirit in the human heart, in families, and in the nations, until now the required work is almost accomplished. Then shall His nation quickly "conclude terms of PEACE with Him."

Even thus is THE LAW for individual Discipleship. The DIVISION, separation, and SCREENING of 2 must be raised to its first SOUL-POWER (20), in and through a CONSTANT SELECTION OF THAT WHICH IS FOR ONE'S ULTI-MATE GOOD. The infant quickly learns to choose FOOD in preference to that which is not edible. Then comes the stage where foods are selected because one TASTES BET-TER than the other. And still much later, foods are selected for reasons of HEALTH. The DISCERNMENT and SELEC-TION of 2 has been functioning. Yet ALL of this is but 2 in its first placement, or that of BODY. Yet ultimately at least some of us learn to forego food FOR A SPIRITUAL OBJEC-TIVE. THIS is the commencement of the number 2 in its 2nd placement. THAT is the commencement of DISCIPLESHIP: dividing between good and evil: learning to choose the GOOD: not merely that which seems good for the moment, but that which IS GOOD FOR ONE'S ULTIMATE WEL-FARE, AND REUNION WITH GOD! Yes, and not merely in the matter of food, but also in the matter of THOUGHT and of word and of conduct!

Shall we digress for a moment that you may glimpse the face of tomorrow, and behold His Kingdom in operation? Very well, IF you can receive it, discern then the oiled functioning of its manifestation....

As the Jews of His day looked for the earthly Throne of David to reign in majestic power, so even now Christians look

for a returning Christ to SIT UPON AN EARTHLY THRONE IN JERUSALEM, subduing the nations "with a rod of iron." One group of people is even naive enough to believe that He shall sit upon a slab of sandstone now in the British throne! As if the very Creator of this universe – Whose POWER maintains it – needs to rest Himself upon a piece of crude limestone! What puerile reasoning! What consummate inaninity! But even if we leave reason out of it as THAT group does, why should we reject the Scripture? Is it not written:

- ** "But they shall serve the Lord their God, and
- ** DAVID their King, WHOM I WILL RAISE UP
- ** UNTO THEM!"

Jeremiah 30:9

The same promise is given in *Ezekiel 34:23-24; 37:24-25*. See also *Amos 9:11-12* and *Hosea 3:5*.

David of old is to be RAISED UP unto them, and be their KING and their "prince forever." He is to be an EARTHLY king, functioning in a normal, physical body, sitting upon a magnificent throne in Jerusalem, reigning over Judah-Israel. Yet his reign shall be no "rod of iron" as affecting other nations. Neither shall the world be ruled through puppet governments subject to Jerusalem. (A world-sceptre of *steel* was never promised unto David.)

Clearly states His Word:

- ** "...and the dead in Christ shall rise first. Then we
- ** which are alive and remain, shall be CAUGHT UP
- ** together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord
- ** in the air and SO shall we ever be with the Lord."

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17

No ambiguity there; but a clear-cut statement that the translated church of Christ shall be taken UP into the air – INTO

THE CLOUDS – and SO (thus) shall we EVER be with Him. THAT does not refer to living on the earth! PRECISELY the same Truth was stressed by the Lord Himself in *John 14:2-3*, when saying that He was going away to prepare a place for them, and would come again to "receive you unto Myself that WHERE I am, THERE ye may be also." Here, DOUBLE EMPHASIS is given, clearly defining the location as AWAY FROM the earth, and, on His return, He "receives" the believers unto Himself. Had He meant that He would return to earth to here abide, He would have transposed His statement to read: "...that where you are, I shall be also!"

Now behold the KEY to His glorious reign: "His BODY" – the translated Church – shall be everywhere present to implement His reign! For the Scripture states:

- ** "Who shall change our vile body that it may be
- ** fashioned like unto His glorious body, ACCORD-
- ** ING TO THE WORKING WHEREBY He is able
- ** even to subdue all things unto Himself."

Philippians 3:21

For, in glorified bodies we shall be like unto Himself; and after the manner in which He manifested unto His followers after the resurrection, so shall we also function! Assuredly, His 40 days of manifestation following the resurrection were ATRUE PORTRAYAL of the ways and means of His REIGN following the awaited arising of His saints, and the rapture of His Church!

Speaking of "angels," the Spirit declared: "Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?" (Heb. 1:14).

– Which Scripture tells us that God's present rule upon earth IS BY MEDIA OF THE ANGELIC WORLD. "Powers, principalities, and Dominions" (angelic ORDERS) have been given jurisdiction over the affairs of man, while unto individuals who are to be "heirs of salvation" have been appointed individual "ministering spirits." ... The over-ruling power of the angelic hierarchy in mundane affairs is also brought out in *Daniel 10:13,20-21*.

- **"Do ye not know that the saints shall JUDGE the
- **world?... Know ye not that we shall judge angels?
- **How much more things that pertain to this life?"

I Corinthians 6:2-3

"Ministering spirits" in charge of the "heirs of salvation" shall BY THE SELFSAME HEIRS BE JUDGED! WHO could better judge the effective conduct of such a ministering spirit than that person unto whom the angel ministered? And in like manner shall the higher order of angels, who have been in charge of cities and nations, be judged by the glorified saints of more exalted standing.

Manifestly, then, as we are to JUDGE the angels who have previously been in control, WE – *THE JUDGES* – shall replace them in that jurisdiction over earthly matters! Even THAT affirms the inspired Apostle in saying: "...how much more (shall we be judging) things that pertain to this life."

EVERY member of that glorified body shall receive his assignment of responsibility in the NEW WORLD GOVERN-MENT. Indeed, there shall be no idle sauntering on jeweled streets while strumming on a golden harp! THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS FILLED WITH PROGRESSIVE ACTIVITY! Think you that the boundless reaches of space have been filled with countless spheres, all without a purpose? The unfathomable immensity of God's space and activity, together with the ceaseless employment of His redeemed, is at present beyond the scope of the objective senses to receive!

- ** "And he that overcometh and keepeth My works
- ** unto the end, to HIM WILL I GIVE POWER
- ** OVER THE NATIONS; and HE SHALL RULE

- ** THEM with A ROD OF IRON: as the vessels of a
- ** potter shall they be broken to shivers, even as I re-
- ** ceived of My Father."

Revelation 2:26-27

The reference to a rod of IRON, and the nations being broken like a potter's vessel, clearly implies the ABSOLUTE nature of the Theocratic rule. 'Twill not be a reign of grace and mercy, but a reign of LAW IN RIGHTEOUSNESS. This LAW shall proceed from Jerusalem, being carried to the nations by the redeemed priesthood (the small remnant of world Jewry).

What then, is the true significance of "the rod of iron"?! ...His pattern has not changed!

- ** "This image's head was of fine gold; his breast and
- ** his arms of silver, his belly and his thighs of brass;
- ** HIS LEGS OF IRON, his feet part of iron and part
- ** of clay."

Daniel 2:32-33

By means of our legs we WALK THE EARTH! The "rod of iron," by means of which we shall SHEPHERD (not "rule") – in His wisdom and power – speaks of the capacity of His glorified saints to WALK THE EARTH in objective bodies, dealing out correction – by the spoken Word – as, when, and where needed! It links with *Philippians 3:21* as already cited.

Assume the civic governing body of a city holds a meeting of council. During the session, a measure is decided upon which is in conflict with the Divine Pattern. It may be decided upon through ignorance, or it could arise through self-ish motives. (Yes, selfishness will still be rampant in the UNregenerate portions of the world.) THEN will "the rod of iron" smite down when the glorified saint in charge appears in their midst – even though the doors be locked! His judgment of the individuals and disposition of the matter will be

in accord with the Divine Will. Neither will his judgment be subject to appeal to some higher court! His word and judgment is absolute, and his power EQUAL to the required disposal! Individuals will be under NO compulsion, but persons in civic power will be subject to UNseating by his "rod of iron."

As to the individual, he too will be under supervision and personal guidance by someone in the lower ranks of the glorified saints. THEN shall be fulfilled the Scripture:

- ** "And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee say-
- ** ing: This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to
- ** the right hand and when ye turn to the left."

Isaiah 30:21

The days of uncertainty shall be past; their "teachers" shall be seen. But we must also understand that the RESPONSI-BILITY linked with POSITIVE KNOWLEDGE will be vastly greater than today. Because this age has been one of darkness and uncertainty – with much room for FAITH – GRACE HAS ABOUNDED. But when darkness is dispelled by LIGHT, and "the knowledge of the Lord fills the earth as waters cover the sea," THEN shall man's responsibility likewise become great.... Then shall a ripe maturity of years be counted as only a mere childhood, while an ABSOLUTE IMMORTALITY shall be the fruit of obedience!

An "angel" today is far from synonymous with all wisdom and power! An "angel" today is no more able to appear objectively and manifest in a MATERIAL way, than a man is able to flap his arms and take to the air. THAT is not man's element, *neither is physical manifestation* the element of angels – all Scripture seemingly to the contrary notwithstanding!... Such visitors as delivered Lot from the doomed city, as dined with Abraham, and as wrestled through the night with Jacob, were "messengers" of God, but not what we now

term "angels." Actually, they were the same as what devout Christians are anticipating to become at the time of the Church's translation.... And in distant future eras when such glorified saints shall occasionally minister to members of a younger LIFE-wave (of beings), they will again be termed the "messengers of God." Yet we should not overlook that the more exalted ANGELS are well able to appear and communicate with mortals, but only through that which is called a "vision," a trance, or a dream-vision. Yet such visions may be very realistic, as in the case of Zechariah, of Mary, and of others as recorded in the Bible.

Once more, having seen the DIVINE INSIGNIA, how greatly does it behoove us to dwell much and deeply upon the Lord's declarations regarding the cost of DISCIPLESHIP.... And yet should we shirk to "pay the price," how bitterly we shall regret it! For, such negligence and shirking is but another failure (or refusal) to exercise the POWER of 2 in its 2nd placement, discerning only the matters of the carnal man and that for the immediate moment!

Briefly now we shall revert to the matter of the RETURN-ING KING. For, most Christians have been taught to believe that Christ in person shall sit and reign from Jerusalem over the entire world. And indeed there are numerous Scriptures which at first reading appear that way. But let us not forget that the very nation which produced the PROPHETS, and received "the lively oracles," BELIEVED MOST ASSUR-EDLY after their return from exile that THEIR KINGDOM WAS THEN PERMANENTLY ESTABLISHED. And time and again thereafter did they believe the same! Other instances could also be cited – all going to show that the mere fact of a Scripture APPEARING this way or that on first and casual reading is NO PROOF that the first impression it conveys is the correct one!

In the days of Moses and the Prophets and WHILE Israel

received the Word of God from the mouths of His messengers, we find that God is referred to time and again as "the KING of Israel" (**Zeph. 3:15; Isa. 44:6**). Even after the days of Saul He was still referred to as Israel's King! And IN TRUTH, as long as they received and obeyed His Word HE WAS THEIR KING!

Assuredly, Christ is to sit on David's throne and reign "from sea to sea." But now as of old, the peoples' concept is a CARNAL one, while our Lord is a SPIRITUAL Being – though at will manifesting in a material body.

- ** HIS IS THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN now and for ** the ages to come.... ** THE KING SHALL LIVE IN ** HIS KINGDOM! ** Never shall THAT be ruled by ** remote control! **
- Time without number did the Spirit declare Him Jacob's King of old, yet at no time are we told that He sat upon an earthly throne wielding sovereignty! Such concepts are childish! But while the people RECEIVED His Word through the mouth of His appointed messengers (Prophets), then was He de facto "their KING."

The clearest statement of His future reign upon the Throne of David is the well-known Scripture of *Isaiah 9:6-7*, where we are told that:

** "Unto us a CHILD is born," and that the INCREASE of ** His Government upon the throne of David was to con-** tinue "from HENCEFORTH, and forever." **

Unequivocally, this Scripture links His REIGN upon the throne of David as COMMENCING WITH His first Advent, and which has continued ever since! Thus, there is not the slightest Scriptural foundation for the postulation that – after the manner of earthly kings – He shall sit upon a material throne, exercising worldly power. Neither would it be pos-

sible, since DAVID is to be RAISED UP TO BE THEIR KING and "prince forever!"

However, in the day that world Jewry (such remnant as remains alive at that day) is converted instantaneously to receive their Lord and Messiah, and in that day when the remnant of Jacob and the remnant of Christian nations FUSE their hearts to ** WORSHIP HIM ** IN SPIRIT ** AND IN TRUTH, *

then ** SHALL HE TRULY BE THEIR KING **
FOR EVER AND ** EVER! **

And the ** INCREASE of His government upon David's Throne will then indeed have become ** GREAT. **

In the *Isaiah* prophecy there is not the slightest hint as to some indefinite elapse of time between the birth of the "child" who becomes the "given SON," and the commencement of His "government." Clearly is it stated that He shall be called "The MIGHTY GOD" and "the Everlasting Father." Naturally, it must be assumed that "the Mighty God" needs no time to wait for the people to elect Him; nor can anything short of assininity suppose that the "Everlasting Father" would ever - could ever - rest Himself upon a man-made "throne" to reign over ignorant mortals!... Or maybe we are to believe that He has "aged" since the days of Moses, when His Spirit-powered Throne rested in its own Glory in the Heavens, yet whenever Moses found it expedient to go for a conversation with God, THEN *** DESCENDED *** the Glorycloud to meet with Moses!... Even Moses had the intelligence to not insult God by offering to construct Him a THRONE of gold!... But countless ministers of today, and would-be "teachers" and cultists, have substituted the doctrines of men for the Word of God, and cast aside their God-given REA-SON.

"FROM HENCEFORTH," said the Prophet; that is, from

THAT VERY TIME that ** THE SON WAS GIVEN, ** upon Whose shoulders should be the GOVERNMENT (FULL RESPONSIBILITY) – and of its increase there should be no end!

Well over 19 centuries has He already REIGNED UPON THE THRONE OF DAVID, and the INCREASE of His Government has been very substantial! And what is more, THOSE NATIONS which have most diligently sought His "WONDERFUL COUNSEL" are THE nations which have been and are the PREeminent LEADERS. While those nations which have spurned His "WONDERFUL COUNSEL," refusing to make obeisance before the KING of Kings and LORD of Lords, historically were THE backward and semi-barbaric peoples whose ignorance, illiteracy, poverty, and antiquated industry placed them on civilization's lowest rungs.

And now for a more intensely personal consideration of His stipulated requirements unto DISCIPLESHIP:

Looked at superficially, we might be prone to construe His stipulations as extreme and incompatible with both reason and righteousness. Yet such are not His words.... We must consider them from THE perspective of THAT center from which He spoke: The God-consciousness perspective....

First, we must understand that He meant by "Disciple," one FULLY DISCIPLINED by His Spirit to the end that the "disciple" should be like unto his Lord. ("...Whosoever believeth in Me, the works that I do shall HE DO ALSO, and greater works than these shall he do." – *Jn. 14:12*) Manifestly, for the maximum achievement the extreme application is called for. But for those who do not aspire to the very PINNACLE, only a commensurate application is entailed.

"Hating" father and mother and one's own people – yes, and one's own LIFE as well – does not refer to HATRED, for it is not in man (ordinarily) to hate one's own people. But

what the Lord sought to convey here was that a person's LOVE for God and His RIGHTEOUSNESS should (and MUST) become so great, and so greatly TRANSCEND his love for his own people that, comparatively, the bonds of blood would be but like hatred in contrast. And THAT as also applying to one's own physical life.

For, as long as man is chiefly CENTERED in a wife or a husband; in one's children and in HOME (and its comforts): engrossed in one's personal life, then there is no approach unto God and His POWER possible – over and above that of the average.

Yet unto such who TRULY seek a greater measure of His PROPINQUITY and of His POWER and of His BLESSING; and who are WILLING and ANXIOUS to meet His requirements, God is both able and willing to make his way of approach POSSIBLE. God does not ask us to shirk responsibilities. *The cross must be* CARRIED! Yet He is both able and willing to OPEN THE WAY!

NOTES:	
The same where the same of	

QUESTIONS

THE PROPHETIC LOGOS LESSON #8

59a: Just WHY has God decreed the abounding of GRACE and MERCY for this dispensation?

b: What goes hand-in-hand with positive KNOWLEDGE?

60a: What is said to be synonymous with DISTANCE?

b: Here state your own idea as to WHY the two should be synonymous.

61: Is Christ's Kingdom of THIS world?

62: What Old Testament Scripture defines precisely the time that the King born in Bethlehem should commence His Government and REIGN upon David's throne?

63: "I came not to send peace BUT A SWORD" (Matt. 10:34). Here in Matthew 10:34-36, Jesus made a clear-cut statement as to His objective in coming to earth. In view of this, and of this PARTICULAR MISSION, what then is the logical and BASIC number to associate with Him in that mission?

64: In what way can it advantage the soul of man to be divided, separated, and come under affliction?

65: What is the full, spiritual portent of "the rod of iron," by which the people on earth in the coming dispensation shall be SHEPHERDED?

N.B.: Some students answer questions by verbatim quotations from the text. Although such answers can't be marked wrong, your own words are much more preferable! Thereby		
do we discern if you have grasped the text correctly.		

ANSWERS

THE PROPHETIC LOGOS LESSON #8

59a: During the Dispensation of LAW, its people KNEW POSITIVELY what was expected of them – they could not plead ignorance. Therefore had an "eye for an eye" been decreed. But when the LAW ceased and the PROPHETS of God could no more be heard, SPIRITUAL darkness and ignorance increased. HENCE has God decreed GRACE and MERCY unbounded for this era....

b: But when positive KNOWLEDGE comes, then enters RESPONSIBILITY.

60a: Scripturally, TIME is synonymous with DISTANCE....

b: Indeed! How could that very conclusion be avoided? Where is the DISTANCE which does not require TIME to trace? Even at the speed of LIGHT, every distance calls for TIME to cover! Hence, the two are synonymous in Scripture....

- 61: NO! "Now is my Kingdom NOT of this world" said the Christ to Pilate. And in substance He added: "Had My Kingdom been of this earth, then would I have instructed My followers to FIGHT that I should not have been taken!"
- 62: *Isaiah 9:6-7* specifies without trace of ambiguity that the "child born" Who should be THE "SON" given (them), should be called the "Mighty God" and "Everlasting Father,"

and that upon His shoulders should be the GOVERNMENT and upon the "throne of David" should be the INCREASE and establishment (or reign) in JUSTICE and JUDGMENT even "from HENCEFORTH"! (From THAT time.)

63: Since Jesus stated point-blank that He came to send DIVISION and A SWORD among the people (in order to DIVIDE AND CONQUER), we can but associate the intrinsic number of TWO (2) with that mission. But since He was not interested in CARNAL division, but *that* division which reached unto the SOUL, the basic number becomes stepped up to "20." Beyond that – as you will observe in *Number Symbolism* – God's lowest revealed number is 1,000. Therefore, the number of His SOUL-strife raised to His Own lower plane becomes 20,000 (20 x 1,000 = 20,000).

64: Since man is headstrong and stiff-necked, unwilling to heed God's DECREES-IN-LOVE, does it become EXPEDI-ENT that he should contact the lower phases of 2 through separation, conflict, and distress. Thus, when finally weakened and worn out and WEARY IN SOUL, he learns to REACH OUT FOR GOD....

65: "The rod of iron," by which the coming dispensation shall be shepherded, refers to two factors: first, the RIGID-NESS and STERNNESS of its LAWS-IN-RIGHTEOUS-NESS; and secondly, that an overseeing number of glorified SAINTS shall have the power to WALK THE EARTH in materialized bodies.